

Page 6, between lines 28 and 30, insert

-- Brief Description of the Drawings: --.

Page 7, between lines 14 and 16, insert

-- Description of the Preferred Embodiments: --.

Page 12, top, change "Patent claims" to -- We claim: --.

In the Claims:

sub B1
Claim 4 (amended). The apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
characterized in that the membrane-strip feed (12) to the
cutting tool (11) is provided laterally above the membrane
star (10).

a
Claim 5 (amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
characterized in that the membrane-strip feed (12) to the
cutting tool (11) is provided at a feed angle of approximately
30 degrees.

Claim 6 (amended). The apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
characterized in that, during each resting phase (14) of the
membrane star (10), in each case two membranes (13) can be
transferred from the membrane strip (12), by way of a double
cutting tool (11), to the membrane star (10).